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My topic

Hosted the awards ceremony and I was holding a bronze medal, *my* bronze medal. “Now is the best time to read teacher’s letter,” thought I. I pulled the envelope out of my inner jacket pocket and with a smile looked to the writing, “Still want to go home?”. I opened the envelope and saw two pieces of paper. “You didn’t back down; we know that you will not let us down,” was written on the first paper I pulled out, I looked to the signature and saw main jury’s surname.

Despite the fact that I was worse than any other team member, juries gave me an opportunity to participate that Olympiad. They did so because they thought that I was a person who never gives up. The most powerful people in the education sector of Kazakhstan believed in me and allowed to represent my country just because they thought that I wouldn’t back down. Thanks to their deed I understood that people who keep fighting even when their chances to achieve are incredibly small not only approach to success, but they also inspire hope in others. Great achievements grow out of fragile hope. Hope is a first step of the grand trip to the dream and until people see real examples of great success, the hope will live in their hearts. Only a person, who believes in achievement and strives for that in spite of all adversities, can lead people. Such person is like a beacon that helps to stay on the road to dream. All grandiose regents had strong will that didn’t allow them to back down. Zhangir Khan, great king of Kazakh nation, was outcast after he returned from captivity but his deeds gained people’s trust and sooner army of ten thousand people was defeated by detachment of six hundred men, headed by Zhangir Khan. This example reminds people of my nation that there is no no-win scenario and dreams are worth fighting for them.

Every great achievement is named so because it seemed to be impossible to reach that. However, people, who have been the main reason for these accomplishments, stubbornly marched towards their dream coping with all difficulties encountered on their way. Confucius, one of the greatest of Western thinkers, said, “Strong not the one who didn’t fall but who managed to rise after falling.” Majority of people who have contributed to the development of humanity fell and found strength to keep fighting. Success may not come immediately but every hardship every failure makes people stronger and opens bigger opportunities for them. Thomas Edison had had six thousand failures before he created electric bulb. Abraham Lincoln, American National hero, couldn’t succeed in business; twice he went bankrupt, eight times he was defeated in run for different posts in government and after all failures he became one of the greatest President of United States. These people are just a few out of hundreds writers of history who were strong enough to rise under the weight of difficulties. I call such people writers of history because they were hosts of own lives, they were building own future, own lives; their decisions determined stroke of history and they were building the world we know. Until your heart is beating, you can write your own story.

Humanity has tremendous opportunities and people have proved that each person can build own wonderful future and change any aspects of own life to the better. However, people are not able to change the past. Unfortunately, opportunities lost in the past are usually lost forever. Regrets about the past pursue people for the years and some people can’t get rid of them for the whole life. People blame themselves and eager to go back in time but until time machine is not discovered the only way to solve this problem is to fight for own goals, to be ready to sacrifice everything for the dream, to look in the face of difficulties and not to run away from them, to write own life in the way that there will be nothing to regret about.

Even if people striving for their dreams didn’t succeed yet, they would not have anything to blame themselves because they did everything they could. Even if people rising after any failures didn’t succeed yet, this failure just makes them stronger. Even if people desperately struggling for own goals didn’t succeed yet, they can encourage others to perform a feat.

Once Winston Churchill said, “Never, never, never give up.” And if after all that you have read in that paper you ask, “Why would I do that?” I will respond, the answer is because *you can* and *you will*.